

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 SNM-02 NSC-07

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APPROVED BY EUR:WSTABLER

S/NM - AMB. VANCE

S/S:SEFRY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130623

TOSEC 351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH OPIUM POPPY BAN

1. AMBASSADOR MACOMBER REPORTS FROM ANKARA THAT IN HIS JUDGMENT WE ARE FINALLY BEGINNING TO MAKE SOME PROGRESS IN EFFORTS TO CONVINCE TURKS THAT OPIUM POPPY BAN MUST BE MAINTAINED. HE FINDS INCREASED UNDERSTANDING AND CONCERN THERE IN HIGH GOVERNMENT CIRCLES REGARDING LIKELIHOOD OF SERIOUS ADVERSE CONGRESSIONAL CONSEQUENCES IF DECISION TAKEN TO RESCIND BAN AND BELIEVES THAT WORD BY YOU TO TURK FONMIN GUNES WILL HELP HEIGHTEN TURK CONCERN.

2. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION PROBLEM TO GUNES STRESSING YOUR CONCERN THAT A BITTER CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC REACTION ALREADY DEVELOPING WILL DAMAGE OUR RELATIONS IF THE TURKS RESUME OPIUM PRODUCTION. WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT YOU AVOID ANY SUGGESTION THAT CULTIVATION UNDER AN IMPROVED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM WOULD BE SALEABLE TO THE CONGRESS. ANY SUGGESTION TO GUNES NOW
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THAT WE HAVE A FALLBACK POSITION COULD UNDERMINE OUR

EFFORTS AT A TIME THEY MAY BE BEARING FRUIT. YOU SHOULD
ALSO BEAR IN MIND THAT FAILURE ON OUR PART TO MENTION THE
POPPY PROBLEM COULD BE MISINTERPRETED BY THE TURKS.

3. IF YOUR SCHEDULE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU-TO SPEAK
TO GUNES WE RECOMMEND THAT HARTMAN BE AUTHORIZED TO

TO CONVEY FOREGOING MESSAGE. BROWN

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NNN

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